

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising an epoxy-activated insoluble support having a ligand attached thereto without being exposed to albumin, said ligand being bindable to albumin, wherein said ligand consists of bromosulfophthalein or a salt of bromosulfophthalein or ester of bromosulfophthalein, and wherein said ligand is attached to said epoxy-activated insoluble support via an epoxy linkage, wherein said epoxy-activated insoluble support is supported in a container.

2-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 3-1, wherein the container is selected from the group consisting of columns, bottles, filter plates, dishes, and plate inserts.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the support is selected from the group consisting of a support for a column, a support for a micro titre plate, column packing, a surface plate, a filter plate, a matrix, an affinity cartridge, and a membrane.

7. - 53. (cancelled)

54. (new) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said epoxy-activated insoluble support is not cross-linked.

55. (new) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein said epoxy-activated insoluble support is agarose.